NOTE XII.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW AFRICAN SPECIES OF THE MELOLONTHID GENUS APOGONIA

BY

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Apogonia purpurascens, n. sp. ♀.

Closely allied to *A. sulcata* Kolbe [1]), but at once distinguished by its strong metallic colour (*sulcata* is deep black), more robust shape and only slightly emarginate front margin of the clypeus (in *sulcata* the clypeus is deeply emarginate in both sexes).

Length 11 mm. — Above glabrous, very shining, bright metallic purplish with metallic green tinges; beneath the metallic hue is less distinct, especially on the prosternum and sides of metasternum; the legs black, the tarsi dark pitchy with rufous hairs; the punctures on the under surface of the body and on the legs with a minute decumbent white hair. Antennae, palpi and claws dark rufous.

The clypeus is very distinctly and rather densely punctured, broadly but not deeply emarginate anteriorly, the sides are convergent in faintly convex lines, angular outwards from the eyes, the lateral front angles subangular and narrowly turned upwards. The face is punctured about in the same way as the clypeus, if not somewhat finer towards the vertex; the suture between the face and the clypeus is obsolete in the middle.

The prothorax is regularly convex, covered with a fine

1) Entom. Nachrichten, Jahrg. XXV (1899), p. 46.

but distinct punctuation which is less dense than that on the face and finest in the middle; the sides (viewed laterally) are regularly rounded, finely marginated, the front angles flattened, acute and prominent. The scutellum triangular, with a few exceedingly fine punctures.

The elytra much convex, with ten punctate sulci which become deeper towards the sides; the interspaces convex, alternately narrow and nearly impunctate (1, 3, 5, 7), and broader and distinctly though sparsely punctured (2, 4, 6); the 2nd interspace is about twice as broad as the 3rd on the basal half of the elytra, equal in breadth at the apex.

The propygidium and pygidium are very rugosely and confluently punctate, the latter with a smooth keel in the centre. The sides of the metasternum are very shallowly punctured, those of the abdomen very coarsely; the middle of the metasternum is apparently impunctate, that of the abdomen sparsely covered with very distinct punctures.

The anterior tibiae are bidentate; the tarsi are slender.

Hab. Congo. — The described female-specimen is in the collection of the Leyden Museum.

Leyden Museum, June 1913.